

No. 710,353.

Patented Sept. 30, 1902.

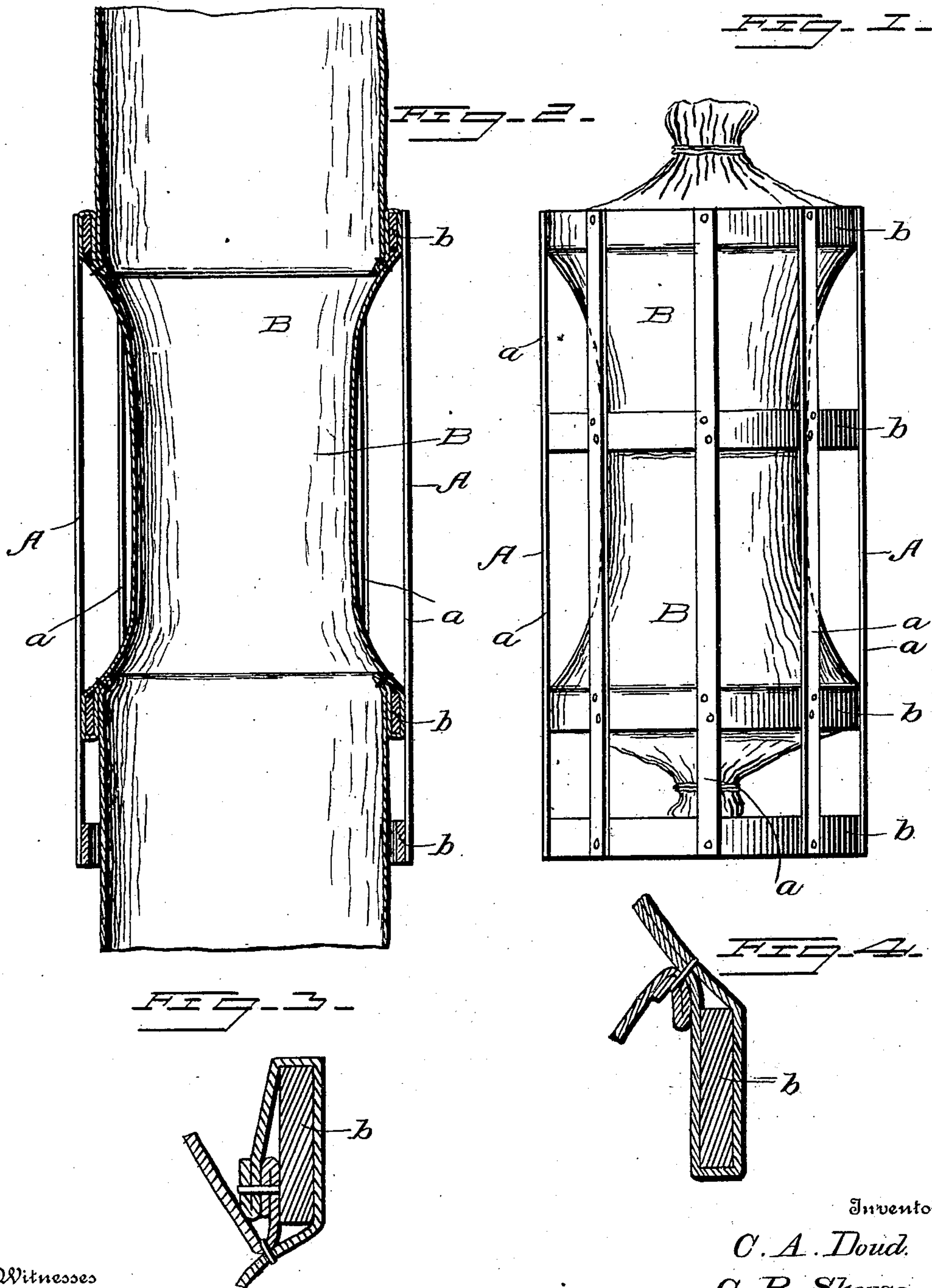
C. A. DOUD & C. B. SHOUSE.

BANANA CRATE.

(Application filed May 22, 1902.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses

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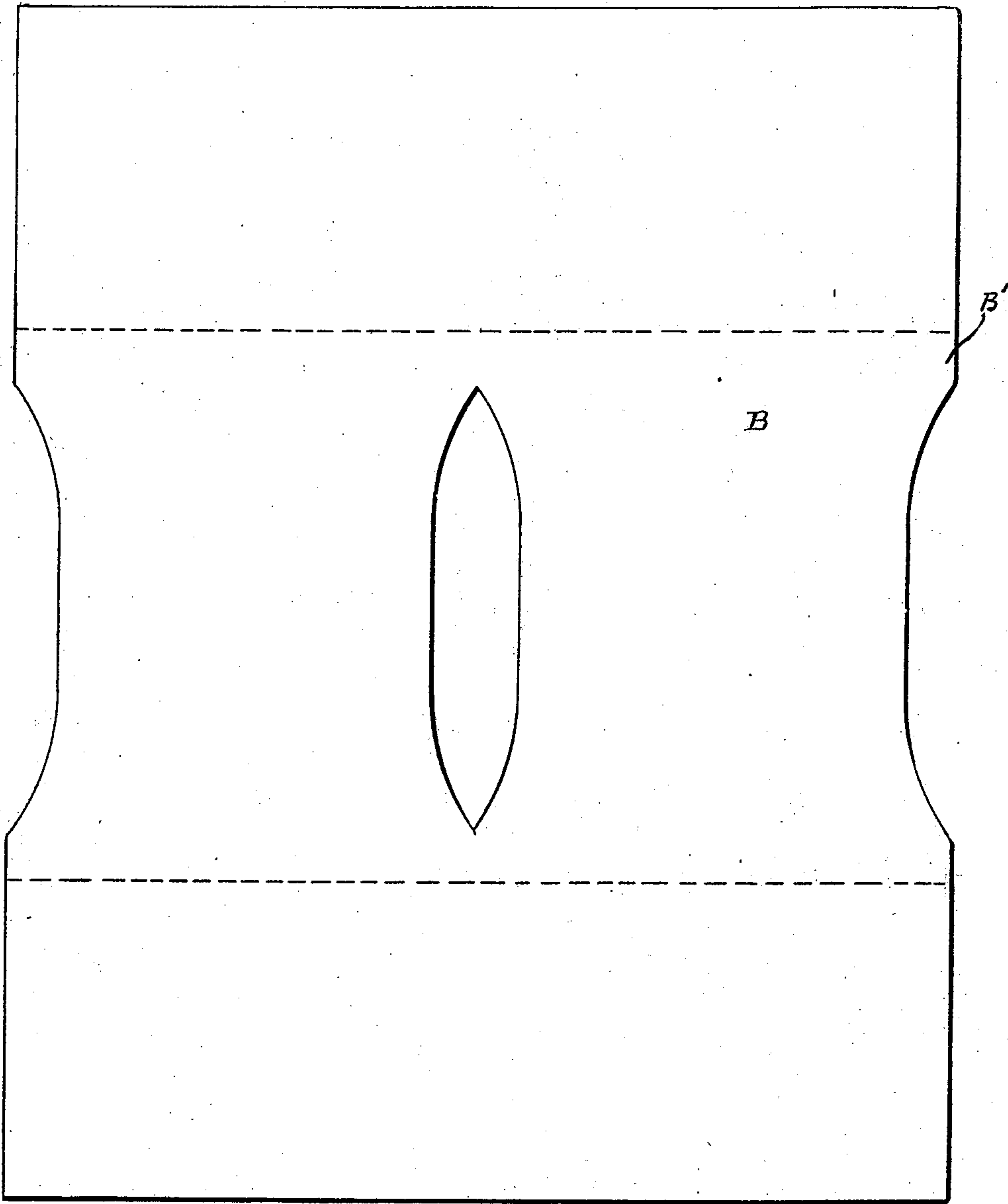
BANANA CRATE.

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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. DOUD AND CHARLES B. SHOUSE, OF LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN,
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BANANA-CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 710,353, dated September 30, 1902.

Application filed May 22, 1902. Serial No. 108,583. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES A. DOUD and CHARLES B. SHOUSE, citizens of the United States, residing at La Crosse, in the county of La Crosse and State of Wisconsin, have made a certain new and useful Invention in Crates; and we declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it ap-
10 pertains to make and use the invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the crate.
15 Fig. 2 is a central vertical section of the crate with top and bottom of the lining shown unfolded. Fig. 3 is a detail cross-section of the connection of the top of the lining to the body thereof. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the connection of the bottom of the lining to the body thereof. Fig. 5 is a plan of the blank for the lining with top and bottom in one piece with the body thereof.
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This invention has relation to banana-ship-
25 ping crates, and has for its object the provision of a simple and efficient cushioned crate in which the delicate bananas will be prevented from coming into contact with the wooden incasement, and so will not become
30 bruised, as is commonly the case with crates now in use.

With this object in view the invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, all as hereinafter described,
35 and pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the wooden framework of the crate, of cylindrical character and composed of the outer longitudinal bars
40 or slats *a* and the inner hoops *b*, there being one such hoop at top and bottom of the crate and two or more intermediate hoops.

Connecting the uppermost hoop *b* and the lower intermediate hoop is the flexible lining
45 B, of common sackcloth or any suitable flexible material, such lining having an inward taper or growing smaller in diameter toward the central portion thereof from top and bottom of the lining, the sides of the
50 lining thus receding inwardly from its at-

tachment-hoops and from the side bars of the crate. This inward taper of the lining is preferably sharp at top and bottom thereof, leaving the intermediate portion of cylindrical character and lying equally spaced
55 from the sides of the crate, and is accomplished by cutting the pattern for the lining in two sections with corner extensions, as shown at B', and producing the desired taper when the parts are sewed together.
60

In inserting the lining in place it is tightly stretched, so that all parts thereof will stand away from the sides of the crate or be of self-supporting character. The upper intermediate hoop *b* acts as a guard for the lining,
65 which is spaced therefrom on all sides.

Top and bottom C and D of the lining may be of one piece of material with the lining proper, as shown in Figs. 2 and 5 of the drawings, or, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, separate pieces may be employed for this purpose.
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The bottom is designed to be opened and gathered and strongly tied for the purpose of removal of any objectionable accumulation,
75 such as banana-pulp, which rots the material.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a fruit-crate, the upper and lower
80 hoops, and the flexible lining secured to said hoops at its upper and lower portions, tightly stretched and tapering from above and below toward the center, substantially as specified.
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2. In a fruit-crate, the incasement and the double tapering lining secured at top and bottom to said incasement, and tightly stretched to escape the sides of the incasement, substantially as specified.
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3. In a fruit-crate, the circular-hoop incasement, having the upper and lower interior hoops, a flexible exteriorly-concave lining secured at its upper and lower portions to said hoops, and stretched tightly therebetween to escape the sides of the incasement, substantially as specified.
95

4. In a fruit-crate, the incasement having upper and lower hoops, and the flexible lining having upper and lower portions wrapped
100

around said hoops, and extending beyond the same to form a cover and bottom of one piece of material with the lining proper, substantially as specified.

- 5 5. In a fruit-crate, the incasement having upper and lower hoops, and the flexible lining having upper and lower portions wrapped around said hoops, and extending beyond the same to form an open cover adapted in closing
10 to be gathered and tied, and an open bottom

adapted in closing to be gathered exteriorly of the lining and tied, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES A. DOUD.

CHARLES B. SHOUSE.

Witnesses:

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